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DEPARTMENT OF STATE AIRGRAM

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A-109 NO. CONFIDENTIAL

TO : Department of State

INFO : CINCSO FOR POLAD, Amembassies TECUNIGALPA, SAN SALVADOR, MANAGUA, SAN JOSE, DOD

FROM : Amembassy GUATEMALA

SUBJECT : Weekly Internal Security Report: August 19 - 25, 1967

REF :

RECEIVED DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUREAU OF AFFAIRS

SEP 1 24 1967

ANALYSIS BRANCH

DATE: August 30, 1967

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1. Terrorist-related activity continued at a high level this week. The most significant single incident was the uncovering of what was described as a guerrilla training camp on a finca in the Department of Escuintla and the arrest in the capital of 9 presumed guerrillas whose interrogation reportedly resulted in locating the camp, where arms, munitions, medicines and quantities of propaganda were found, according to police reports. This is the first concrete evidence of organized guerrilla activity in this area although rumors that the guerrillas are planning to open, are opening or have opened new fronts abound and the south coast, and particularly the Escuintla area, are often mentioned as likely spots. Certainly lawlessness in general is picking up in the area; this week the Department of Escuintla saw more terrorist-type violence than any other Department. (Two houses were raided by armed bands, a policeman was gunned down, one man was kidnapped and one assassinated body was found.) The recent discovery of the guerrilla camp notwithstanding, however, it is very possible some of the lawlessness there is not politically inspired.

2. The rest of the weeks incidents followed the usual pattern albeit somewhat more abundant than usual. There were kidnappings (7 or so - it usually takes a few days to sort the reported kidnappings out from the arrests), shootings, bombings, gangster-type raids of houses and fincas and, as usual, some assassinated bodies found. (See List of Incidents)

Enclosure:
List of Incidents

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY COJ DATE 2 OCT 1981

RDS or XDS EXT. DATE

TS AUTH.

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3. Another week has thus past with no significant guerrilla initiative and there are continued evidences of low morale and general disorganization in rebel ranks. Some insurgent leaders are still around and active, however, and it is probable that they will feel it necessary to strike back in some fashion, to prove the movement is still alive.

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LIST OF INCIDENTS

- Aug. 16 - Unknown body with bullet holes found in El Cerenal Barberena, Dept. Santa Rosa. No political motive known.
- 16 - One policeman killed and another wounded as police platoon fired on in Escuintla by unknown men.
- 17 - Body of unknown woman found in El Rico, Dept. Izabal. There is some speculation that body belongs to Maria Trinidad Cruz, leader of local anti-communist forces, who was kidnapped from her home some 3 months ago.
- 17 - The Mayor of Morales, Dept. Izabal, Encarnacion Cerenado Martinez, and his chauffeur Oscar Castellanos, were wounded as they were fired on by unknown men while driving on the Atlantic Highway. He had been threatened with death by CADEG.
- 18 - House of Arnolde Legrand, in Zone 1, object of terrorist bomb in capital. Damage superficial. No political motive known.
- 18 - Two bombs exploded in the capital, one in Zone 13 and one in Zone 1. Damage reported only superficial. Zone 13 house reported to belong to Eduardo Muyshondt, an officer of De Sola and Co., which probably explains why his house was picked.
- 18 - Six armed men with machine guns killed Lorenzo Marroquin, and wounded Leandro Recinos Najera, and stole Q2500 in the parcelamiento Arizona near San Jose, Dept. of Escuintla. No political motive known.
- 18 - Thirty armed men attacked the house of Oscar Humberto Silva Falla in Zone 15. Falla and his wife had left for the day. No political motive known.
- 19 - Jose Humberto Miguel was taken from workshop in Zone 11 by two men who identified themselves as members of GOG Security Forces, but showed no identification. Miguel became suspicious, fled, but was stopped by a shot in the arm. He was taken to hospital by firemen and it is not yet clear whether kidnapping or simple case of arrest was involved.

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- Aug. 20 - Entire family of 5 people shot to death by group of unknown men in town of LaCumbre, San Pedro Pinula, Dept. Jutiapa. No political motive known.
- 21 - A group of men armed with machine guns kidnapped Edgar Recinos Guerra from his parents house in Nueva Concepción, Tiquisate, Dept. Escuintla. He is son of Jesus Recinos Polanco, described by press as a "revolutionary" leader. He told police that may be reason for son's abduction but, according to Recinos, his son is totally inactive in politics.
- 21 - Two bullet-ridden bodies found in Nueva Concepción, Dept. Escuintla. They have not been identified and no political motive is known.
- 21 - Body of Cristobal Arevel Arce found in parcelamiento Mogellón, Tiquisate, Dept. Escuintla. No political motive known.
- 22 - O/A August 22 body found with bullet holes on shore of Lake Amatitlan, Dept. Guatemala. Shewed signs of having been tortured and left hand had been cut off. He has not been identified and no political motive known.
- 23 - Two road workers kidnapped by 10 men armed with submachine guns in Mayuelas, municipality of Gualán, Dept. Zacapa. One Juan Olivares y Olivares found shot to death a few hours later; whereabouts of other, Carlos Mendoza Oserio, is still unknown.
- 23 - O/A August 23 ten armed men raided the house of Hermann Velasquez at the Parcelamiento Santa Isabel - San Jose, Dept. Escuintla. They threatened him and stole Q100.
- 23 - Former policeman machinegunned to death in Chiquimula. He was Martinez Morataya. No political motive known.
- 23 - 24 - Nine presumed guerrillas reported captured in capital. Group included alleged guerrilla chieftain Juan Francisco Mejia Rodriguez. Interrogation revealed the location of what was described as a "training camp" at a finca in La Democracia, Dept. Escuintla, where police seized propaganda, armaments and other equipment.

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